THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The price of indigenously produced Penicillin G Ist Crystal, which is used for the manufacture of Semi Synthetic Penicillins, has been increased from Rs. 886/- per BU to Rs. 933/- per BU on the basis of price revision applciations submitted by M/s. HAL & IDPL, due to rise in the cost of major raw materials and utilities.

(c) No, Sir, as the prices of semi-synthetic Penicillins are also being revised due to impact of price increase of Penicillin G Ist Crystal.

Molasses based Petrochemical Units

1464. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the steps being taken by Government to encourage growth of molasses based petrochemicals units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): Petrochemicals are mainly produced from hydrocarbon feed stock though there are some units based on alcohol route also. However, the choice of feed stock is left to the entrepreneurs concerned. Given the size of petrochemical units, the preference is mostly for hydrocarbon route.

Price increase in Bulk Drugs & Formulations

1465. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the bulk drugs and formulations the prices of which have been increased after January, 1992 till so far;

(b) what were their earlier prices, revised prices and the extent of increase in each case and when was the revision affected;

(c) what were the main reasons for increase in price of each bulk drug and formulation;

(d) whether revised consumption norms which have been achieved by the companies were seen in any of these cases;

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) what is the period to which BICP norms relate in each of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b) The requisite information in respect of bulk drugs whose prices have been revised upwards after January, 1992 is given in the annexed Statement. The number of formulations based on such bulk drugs run into several hundreds. The time and labour involved in compiling the requisite details will not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved. [*See* Appendix CLXIV Annexure No. 28]

(c) to (e) The main reason for increase in the prices of bulk drugs and formulations is increase in the input costs and escalation is worked out in accordance with the escalation formula given by BICP in their cost-cum-technical study report and supporting data furnished by the applicants.

(f) BICP recommend the prices of bulk drugs for a period of 3 years and revision as and when requested by the manufacturers is considered on the basis of escalation formula given, in the BICP report.

Gas based fertilizer industries

1466. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that gas based fertilizer industries could produce fertilizers at cheap cost;

(b) if so, what steps are taken by Government to establish more gas based fertilizer industrial units;

(c) whether thert is any gas based fertilizer industrial unit in the southern States like Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Pondicherry;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, what steps are being taken by Government to establish gas based fertilizer industries in south-States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) It is a fact that a gas based fertilizer plant gives lowest cost of production as compared to plants based on other feedstocks like coal, naphtha, fuel oil etc.

(b) to (e) Subject to availability of gas, a few projects for setting up gas-based plants have been identified for implementation during the Eighth Plan. Except in Andhra Pradesh, where a major gas-based fertilizer plant is presently under implementation in Kakinada, there are no gas based fertilizer plants in other Southern States. Similar projects in other Southern States can be taken up when gas availability is confirmed.

Setting up of new Oil Refinery

@1467. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new modern integrated solvent extraction and oil refinery project is being set up in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including its location, cost, production capacity and date of commencement and completion?

@Previously Unstarred Question 678, transferred from the 15th July, 1992.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) In so far as the vegetable oil sector is concerned the activity relating to setting up of new modern integrated solvent extraction and oil refinery project is delicensed. Any way, no such proposal has been received in this Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.

आदिवासियों के लिए उचित दर की दुकानें

1468. **श्री शिव प्रसाद चनपुरिया :** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सुनिश्चित किया गया है कि सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली को नया रूप देने के पश्चात प्रत्येक ग्राम पंचायत क्षेत्र के मुख्यालय में उचित दर दुकानें खोल कर वितरण की व्यवस्था की जा रही है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि सूखाग्रस्त पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों में रहने वाले आदिवासी अभी भी इस वितरण व्यवस्था के लाभों से वंचित तथा उन्हें इन क्षेत्रों में 15-15 किलो मीटर दूर तक भटकने के बाद भी इन दुकानों से अनाज नहीं मिल पाता ;

(ग) क्या सरकार उपभोक्ताओं को वितरण व्यवस्था के लाभों से वंचित करके लाभ कमाने में लगी हुई इन वितरण एजेंसियों के विरुद्ध दण्डात्मक कार्यवाही करेगी ; और

(घ) जवाहर रोजगार योजना के अन्तर्गत अब तक कितनी पंचायतों में दुकानें खोलने के प्रावधान का अनुपालन/कार्यान्वयन किया गया है तथा इसका राज्यवार ब्यौरा क्या है ?

नागरिक आपूर्ति और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद) : (क) और (ख) केन्द्रीय सरकार